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THE ROYAL AIR FORCE AT WAR.

by

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(*With acknowledgments to the Illustrated London News*).

FORGED AND TEMPERED IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE.

Great Britain stands to-day stronger than she has never been. Behind the white cliffs of Dover—the Ramparts of Freedom—is a united and resolute people set in one purpose—Victory over the enemy. Out from that island the bombers and fighters of the Royal Air Force sweep day and night to carry the War to the heart of Germany, striking ever deeper, striking ever harder at the German War Machine. Forged and tempered in the heat of battle over Britain in the dark hours of 1940, springing to the attack with all the confidence engendered by a great cause and the steadfast determination of a freedom-loving people, backed by the might of the United States of America, the Royal Air Force flies towards Victory—stronger than ever in the past, each day growing stronger.

R. A. F. *versus* LUFTWAFFE.

When the history of these times is written, one of the finest chapters of all must surely be the triumph of the British Royal Air Force against the swarming might of the German *Luftwaffe*. Its fight is the battle for the freedom of the world—a struggle which rose to formidable heights in England's darkest hour, when the issue trembled in the balance. In that grim fight

the Royal Air Force established a clear superiority over the *Luftwaffe*, and established its mastery in the British skies. Now that mastery is being carried forward over German-occupied territory into the heart of Germany itself. Nor will the onslaught be relaxed until victory is won. Since the War began, up to the end of June 1941, a total of 6,041 aeroplanes of the *Luftwaffe* were confirmed as shot down by the Royal Air Force and anti-aircraft guns, as well as 660 aeroplanes of the Italian *Regia Aeronautica*. During this same period the Royal Air Force lost a total of 2,185 aeroplanes in action against Germany and Italy; a ratio of better than 3 to 1 in favour of the R. A. F.!

REASONS FOR SUPERIORITY.

The reason for this superiority is threefold. In the first place, it rests on that individual superiority of the British aircraft—the Spitfires, the Hurricanes, the Wellingtons, compared with the Me 109s, the Dorniers and the Junkers. In the second place, there is the superior training of the British pilots and crews, in the air and on the ground. And, thirdly, there is the better staff work behind the planned strategy of the R. A. F. For there is an unbroken chain of experience in the command of the British Service, whereas Germany had a long break between 1918 and 1934.

THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN.

The cumulative effect of these three points became obvious during those seven weeks of intense attack on Great Britain in August and September 1940, when the R. A. F., greatly outnumbered, smashed the German onslaught in what has come to be known as the Battle of Britain. Between Aug. 8 and Sep. 27 the *Luftwaffe* lost a total of 2,112 aeroplanes (989 fighters and 1,123 bombers) shot down over England, compared with 573 British fighters. The Germans lost 5,261 men, the British, 290.

NAZI MENDACITY.

The manner in which the German High Command distorts its figures is well known, and some of its absurd claims during this epic battle of the sky make interesting reading. For instance, on Aug. 15, 1940, the German communiqué claimed that 143 British aeroplanes were destroyed for the loss of 32 of their own machines. The true losses were 181 German aeroplanes and 34 British fighters, from which 17 British pilots escaped. The curious thing was that against the *32 admitted losses by the Luftwaffe 49 were strewn over the British country-side*! Again, on Oct. 15 the Germans claimed that only two night-bombers were missing. This was patently a lie, for four smouldering wrecks could be inspected next morning—at Harwich, Bishops Stortford, Frome and Denbigh.

The British claims, however, will bear the scrutiny which the German figures cannot. First of all, look at the day fights—the battle, which won for the Royal Air Force mastery of the daylight skies over Great Britain and the Channel, and enabled this supremacy to be pushed forward over France as the power of the R. A. F. steadily grew.

THE DEFEAT OF THE DAY RAIDERS.

When France fell, the German High Command planned to end the War quickly, and bring Great Britain to its knees by the same tactics of massed attack which had broken Poland, Holland, Belgium and France. The great formations of the *Luftwaffe* were to smash all before them, and open up the way to invasion and occupation. The German Air Force—for the first time operating independently without land support—swept over the coast of Kent, its hopes high, its confidence supreme. For had it not three successful campaigns behind it? Had not its dive-bombers crashed through all opposition? Only one small island now was left.......!

It was met by the Fighter Command of the R. A. F., small but grimly determined. It was met and it was beaten. The invading legions were shot out of the sky in droves, until Southern England was strewed with smoking wrecks. By October the British victory was complete.

That victory was marked by three days of outstanding success amid weeks of growing triumph. On Aug. 15 the R. A. F. shot down 181 enemy aeroplanes for the loss of 34. On Sep. 15 the British fighters scored 185 victories for the loss of only 25 of their number; on Sept. 27 a total of 133 German aircraft were destroyed. Again only 34 British fighters were lost. The best week of all was between Aug. 11 and 17, when 495 German aeroplanes were shot down for the loss of 115 British fighters and 58 British pilots. *In that one week the Germans lost 1,204 trained men of the Luftwaffe.*

RESULTS OF THE BATTLE.

This victory, which changed the whole course of the War, was achieved not only by matchless courage, but by technical superiority in the air and on the ground, in both machines and men. In the early attacks the *Luftwaffe* relied chiefly on the Junkers Ju 87B dive-bombers—the dreaded Stukas—but although it had proved extremely successful in Poland and in France, where the air opposition was slender, the Ju 87B was no match for resolute fighter opposition. For instance, the top speed of the Stuka is only 390 km.p.h. compared with the 540 km.h. of the Hurricane and the 590 km.h. of the early Spitfires it had to meet. Furthermore, the Stuka was armed with only two fixed guns in the wings and one movable gun to fire backwards. Little wonder that the eight guns of the Spitfires and Hurricanes blasted the Junkers dive-bombers out of the sky.

Even when the Germans sent over big escorts of Messerschmitt Me 109E fighters, the results did not vary greatly, for the British fighters at once showed that they were the masters of the Messerschmitts as well. Examine the figures. The Spitfire Mk. I. is 20 km.h. faster than the Me 109E. Armed with eight machine guns in the wings the Spitfire has a rate of fire of 9,600 rounds per minute, compared with the 1,580 rounds per minute of the two cannon and two machine-guns of the Me 109E. The weight of fire of the British machine was approximately 136 kg. per minute; that of the German, despite its cannon, only 82 kg. per minute. Thus the British fighter had the advantage in speed and in fire-power. It had a further advantage in power of manoeuvre. The turning circle of the Spitfire is much less than that of the Me 109E, because of the smaller wing and greater loading of the German machine. The result is that the Spitfire can turn quicker and gain a tactical advantage in a fight.

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS.

Now, both the Spitfire and the Messerschmitt are improved—but the improvement in the latest Spitfire puts it even further ahead of the German product. Some Spitfires are now armed with two cannon and four machine-guns. The speed has gone up to about 650 km.h. In contrast, the Me 109F has sacrificed still more fire-power in an effort to draw more nearly level in speed and climb. The speed of the Me 109F is about 620 km.h., but to gain that speed the armament has been reduced to one cannon and two machine-guns. Time and again the Messerschmitt product has been proved inferior to the Spitfire V—on every count the British fighter has shown its superiority.

Nor is the Spitfire the peak of R. A. F. development. The new Hawker Tornado and Typhoon single-seat fighters are as much in advance of the Spitfire as the Spitfire is in advance of the Me 109. With a top speed of more than 670 km.h., and a heavier armament than anything which has gone before, they enhance still further the British air supremacy.

EMPIRE TRAINING.

Superiority in aircraft would be useless if the men who fly them were not able to exploit that superiority to the maximum advantage. The Royal Air Force, with the great Empire Training Plan behind it, is receiving a steady flow of new pilots, who reach the squadrons with hundreds of flying hours to their credit, and already well founded in fighting tactics. For the training of every British fighter pilot is completed by an intensive course at an Operational Training unit. There he is instructed in all the tactics learned from experience in action, by pilots who graduated in the Battle of Britain. Such is not the case in Germany, where pilots are sent to squadrons with

little or no operational training. The tactics learned in the great air battles over England in the autumn of 1940 are instilled into every budding fighter pilot of the R. A. F.

THE NIGHT DEFENCE.

Such was one phase of the defeat of the *Luftwaffe* by the R.A.F. Defeated by day, the *Luftwaffe* turned to night attacks, distinguished by ruthless fury, and the indiscriminate bombing of cities, in an effort to break British civilian morale. It merely strengthened determination. Slowly but surely the Royal Air Force has been establishing the same mastery over the night-bomber as it has done over the daylight raiders.

New fighters and new methods of location have contributed to the success. The British radiolocation system has made possible the interception of German bombers on the darkest nights. Miracles of scientific ingenuity, the radiolocators are spread like a net over England to discover the night-raider. Then our fighters can be guided by radio-telephone into position to attack.

The growing tide of success for night interception is plainly shown by the figures which represent the intensity of the attacks and the successes gained. In September 1940, there were 17,569 civilian casualties in Great Britain, 6,954 of them fatal. During that month, 20 German night bombers were shot down—one for every 886 casualties. In April 1941, the casualties were 12,988, of which 6,032 were killed. But the bomber losses had risen to 87—one for every 149 casualties. By May, the casualties had dropped to 10,575, 5,394 of which were fatal. But the German night losses had risen to 144 bombers in that month. In June the British civilian casualties were 867-399 being killed. 42 German bombers were shot down, one bomber for every 20½ casualties. The ratio works out at one bomber for every 73 casualties—about 2 civilian deaths for every trained German airman killed or captured. The odds are becoming unpleasantly short for the German flyers.

All the while the British night defences are improving steadily as new night-flying squadrons are formed; Germany lags behind in night interception and in night-flying fighters. Despite the fact that British bombers have five or six times as far to fly over enemy territory, and despite the fact that as many British bombers now range over Germany as the enemy has ever put over Great Britain, the greatest number of British bombers lost to date in any one month is 73, and that total was swelled by extraordinary conditions on two nights in June, when visibility, even at 2 a. m., was equal to that of a cloudy day.

The Bristol Beaufighters and the Douglas Havoc night-fighters of the R. A. F., far exceed the Me 110 and the Ju 88 night-fighters in range, fire-power and in their flying qualities. Once guided to the raiders by the

radiolocation system, they give the enemy so little chance that he usually does not know what hits him. **The Royal Air Force has still better equipment on the way. The night skies of England may soon be as unhealthy for the Hun as were the day skies of a year ago.**

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE TAKES THE INITIATIVE.

Throughout the summer and autumn of 1940, the Royal Air Force stood sternly on the defensive. The collapse of France, and the acquisition by Germany of bases on the Channel coast, had constituted a perilous threat to the security of Great Britain. The *Luftwaffe* flung all its power into the attack by day and by night. It inflicted great destruction. Yet even greater destructi n was inflicted in return. It was thrown back in shattered disarray ; its best squadrons decimated ; its finest pilots killed or captured.

The Royal Airforce emerged from the ordeal stronger than it had ever been, with more fighters, more bombers, more men to fly them. Even more important, it emerged from the struggle with the British Aircraft Industry not smashed and broken as the Germans had designed, but stronger, more virile, better organised for production than ever before, each month marking a new record for aircraft completed and delivered to the Service. And behind all that stood the steadily increasing output of American industry. **Grim defence turned to grim attack. The R. A. F. had established its mastery of the skies of England. Now it pressed forward that mastery across the Channel, sweeping far into France by day, brushing aside all opposition and penetrating far into Germany by night.**

Where the Germans had failed in their daylight assaults on Great Britain in the autumn of 1940, the British now succeeded in their attacks on German bases in France. The reasons for the success in attack were precisely the same as those for the success in the defence of England. British fighters and British bombers were able to take on odds of 5-to-1 without a sense of inferiority. Where the numbers were equal, or where the British had the advantage, the Germans suffered severe reverses. German fighters began to refuse combat with the roving British squadrons. These Nazi reverses will grow ever greater, as the Royal Air Force adds numerical superiority to the technical superiority it now possesses and is rapidly enhancing.

OFFENSIVE SWEEPS.

Thus, in the spring and summer of 1941, the Royal Air Force swung to the attack. During the first six months of 1941, a total of forty large-scale offensive "sweeps" were made from England over France by day. Hundreds of tons of bombs were dropped on German dispositions. **During these "sweeps"—daily events by the latter half of June—a total of 195 German**

fighters were shot down for the loss of 88 British fighters and 5 bombers. During this period, too, 112 German bombers were destroyed round the British coasts.

SUPERIOR MACHINES.

Gradually, the extent and weight of the day attacks have increased. Blenheim bombers were reinforced by heavier bombers which have penetrated into Germany by day, each carrying bomb-loads three times as heavy as our older heavy-type bombers. At night, Germany is hammered on a steadily growing scale. On many occasions several hundreds of British bombers have flown over Germany, carrying more than a ton of explosives each. **The Royal Air Force possesses new bombers which are faster, bigger, and more formidably armed than anything the enemy possesses. The Short Stirling, the Handly Page Halifax, the Boeing "Fortress" and the Consolidated Liberator four-engine bombers, are all capable of flying to Berlin and back with several tons of bombs.**

Compare, for instance, the Boeing "Fortress" with the Junkers Ju 88. The Boeing is an older design, yet in the form in which it is now reaching Great Britain from America, it excels the Junkers 88 on every score. The top speed of the Boeing is 520 km.h. ; that of the Ju 88 490 km.h. The Bceing can carry 2,260 kg. of bombs for 3,200 km., cruising at height of 9,000 metres. The Junkers can carry only 1,800 kg. of bombs for 2,750 km., cruising at only 6,000 metres.

The Boeing can fly so high that it is out of effective range of anti-aircraft fire, and fighter interception is difficult. Yet the Boeing was designed in 1934. The newest British four-engine bombers have the benefit of five years of later experience. If we compare two of the older types we find the same superiority of equipment in favour of the British. For instance, the Wellingtons can carry 1 130 kg. of bombs for 3,200 km. compared with 1,000 kg. for 1,850 km. of the Heinkel He 111K. All these factors tell with increasing force as the power of the British defensive develops.

THE MIDDLE EAST CAMPAIGN.

This record would not be complete without some reference to the campaigns in the Middle East and the work of the Fleet Air Arm. The much-vaunted *Regia Aeronautica*, so puffed up with pride at its own achievements in the Spanish War, found that its antiquated biplane fighters and three-engine bombers were at the mercy of the Hurricane fighters of the R. A. F., and could not catch the Blenheim and Maryland bombers. When the Germans pressed on into Libya, they fared little better. Up to the end of June 1941, a total of 1,084 Italian and German aeroplanes had been shot down in the Middle East for the loss of 273 British machines. In addition, more than a thousand Axis aircraft have been destroyed on the ground.

THE FLEET AIR ARM.

In the Mediterranean, the Fleet Air Arm has done magnificent work, not only in its more spectacular exploits, but in its everyday reconnaissance patrols as well. The three great achievements of the Fleet Air Arm were all gained with torpedo aircraft. At Taranto, on the night of Nov. 11, 1940, Fairey Swordfish swept over the harbour, and when they left had sunk or seriously damaged one battleship of the "Littorio" class, two battleships of the "Cavour" class, two cruisers, and two fleet auxiliaries. The results were established beyond dispute by air photography.

Then, again, in the battle of Cape Matapan, on March 28, aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm torpedoed Italian warships and so impeded them that five were brought to battle and destroyed. One British aeroplane was lost. Finally, there was the episode of the "Bismarck", which was found and torpedoed by Naval aeroplanes, and so slowed down that the British warships could close on it for the kill.

One further bogey remains to be killed—the legend of the vastness of the *Luftwaffe.* The limitations were clearly shown when the attack on Russia began, for a considerable part of the bomber strength of the *Luftwaffe* was withdrawn from France to fling against the new foe. The R. A. F. swung to the attack on an increased scale, and German desperation was evident in its attempt to stem the flood.

THE TURNING OF THE TIDE.

A great change has come over the War since the autumn of 1940. Its full significance is not yet apparent. The Royal Air Force, having proved its defence, has developed its striking power—a power which grows still more formidable with each passing month. **The key to victory lies in technical superiority and numerical superiority combined. The Royal Air Force has the one and is building up the other, with the formidable aid of the U. S. A. Reliable estimates agree that the numerical strength of the Royal Air Force will equal that of the *Luflwaffe* by the spring of 1942. From then on, the mastery of the skies over Germany will belong to the British. There can be only one result.**

The Royal Air Force is building up its numbers with new and more formidable aeroplanes than any yet seen. Germany, with its rigid production methods, can produce few new models, and then nothing more formidable than the Heinkel He 113 (outmatched by the Spitfire on all points), the Focke-Wulf Kurier (comparatively slow and under-armed), and the Me 109 F. (with even less fire-power than the earlier version). Still newer types, such as the Fw 190 fighter and the Do 217 and He 177 bombers, will soon be announced with much blowing of German propaganda trumpets. The Royal Air Force knows all about these machines, and is looking forward to meeting them and exposing their short-comings.

NEW TYPES.

Meanwhile, in such types as the Typhoon, the Halifax, the Manchester, the Stirling, the Lightning, the Liberator, the Vengeance, the Bermuda, the Kittihawk and the Tornado, the R. A. F. seals its certainty of continued superiority. **All these types are now in big-scale production.**

ANGLO-AMERICAN PRODUCTION.

The British Aircraft Industry and the American Aircraft Industry, all the English-speaking peoples, are banded together with one purpose in view—to smash Hitler and all that he stands for. The boasts of the Germans will avail them nothing against the mighty onslaught which is being prepared to destroy them. Then the peoples of all the oppressed countries will rise against the tyrant nation and Europe will be free again.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

6—6—42 to 12—6—42.

China.—The struggle for the possession of CHUNGSIEN, the air-field city of Central CHEKIANG continues, and the Japanese are striking in force to secure the control of the railway running through the province of CHEKIANG and KIANGSI. The Chinese, counter-attacking, have recaptured PANTAO, west of FENCHANG, HSIENNUMIAO, west of KIANGLING and WUSHANPU, west of NANCHANG, but have lost TUNGSIANG, south-east of NANCHANG.

In the SHAN STATES the Japanese have captured KENGTUNG and TINSUNG.

The Chinese Expeditionary Force sent to BURMA has withdrawn into YUNNAN and halted the enemy at YUCHUPO, MAIZTI and YAOLANG. Fierce fighting continues between LISHUPING and CHUCHCHANG.

The use of poison gas at CHUHSIEN has been reported. President Roosevelt has warned JAPAN that if she persists in the use of the gas there will be retaliation in kind. Though Japanese spokesmen have denied the charge, evidence is accomulating against her. Copies of official instructions on the use of gas have been seized from the persons of captured Japanese prisoners. Medical examination conducted by foreign

and Chinese medical authorities has proved the existence of poison gas in the unexploded shells abandoned by the enemy in the battlefields. 800 cases, in most of which mustard gas was used have been reported.

British and American air units have arrivied in CHINA.

The Pacific.—The Japanese made three naval attacks, one on DUTCH HARBOUR in the north, another off MIDWAY ISLANDS in the east, and a third on SYDNEY on the Australian coast in the south.

The first of these actions occurred on the 3rd. It was a double raid on DUTCH HARBOUR, in the ALEUTIAN ISLANDS, an important base between JAPAN and North AMERICA. The offensive has been regarded variously, as a reprisal for the American raid on TOKYO, as a reconnaissance raid, and also as a diversion to withdraw attention from the MIDWAY attack which was to follow. The Axis claim that certain bases in the ALEUTIAN ISLANDS have been occupied, is unconfirmed. On the other hand a spokesman of the U. S. Department has stated that none of the inhabited islands in the area 'have been troubled by these uninvited guests.'

The second action, which took place near the MIDWAY ISLANDS, some 1,653 miles from DUTCH HARBOUR, started on June 4 and lasted some days. It was the sixth attack of the kind but the heaviest, and was evidently intended to effect a landing and cut off American communications. But in the event the enemy was forced to withdraw, with the loss of two or three aircraft-carriers, with all the planes on board and damage to two more aircraft-carriers, three battleships, four cruisers and three transports. It was a signal American success, partly avenging the loss at PEARL HARBOUR.

The submarine attacks on SYDNEY harbour and NEW CASTLE were in the nature of nuisance raids, though they cost the enemy no less than eight submarines.

Burma.—The Royal Air Force raided AKYAB, OYSTER ISLAND and HOMALIN, and the American Army Air Corps, RANGOON.

India.—A British Convoy, too big to disembark in any single Indian port, recently arrived with a large contingent of men and materials. CEYLON's defences have been strengthened, not only to meet the foe but to carry out an offensive. A party of British Quakers will soon arrive to help in relief of air-raid sufferers. A committee of the Executive Council of the Government of INDIA,

styled 'War Resources Committee of the Council' has been set up to co-ordinate the problems of war production, transportation, communication, finance, and rationing of goods and materials. A Director-General is being appointed to look after the repair and construction of ships. Dr. Grady, Head of the U. S. Technical Mission to INDIA thinks that INDIA 'could become largely self-sustaining within a year in many of the war-needs.'

At the behest of His Majesty, H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester has arrived in INDIA. He will visit the civil and military centres.

Libya.—Fierce-fighting rages in and around KNIGHTSBRIDGE and BIR HAKHEIM, and in different adjacent areas known as 'Devil's Cauldron', 'Hedge-Hog', 'and KNIGHTSBRIDGE Box'. British forces have occupied HARMAT. The Axis is reported to have lost 340 tanks near KNIGHTSBRIDGE alone: 20,000 regular U. S. troops have arrived at BASRA in four transports.

Russia.—Following a futile siege of five months SEBASTAPOL is now being attacked from the air without result. German troops are said to have landed in the TAMAN Peninsula across the KERCH Straits and occupied 'ANSPAL'. A German offensive on the KHARKOV front is also reported.

Ten German ships were sunk in the Baltic.

Hitler's activities during the week included an interview granted to Kallay—the Hungarian Quisling-Premier, a visit to MANNERHEIM—the Finnish Commander-in-Chief, ostensibly to felicitate him on his 75th birthday, but really to involve him deeper in the Russian fight; and another visit to BERLIN to pin GERMANY's highest Order on the carcase of Heydrich—the hangman of EUROPE.

R. A. F.'s attacks on the enemy areas continued with unabated vigour. BREMEN, LE TREPORT, CHERBOURG, HAVRE, OSTEND, DIEPPE and the RUHR were raided.

Addressing a meeting at SYRACUSE University on June 8, Lord Halifax observed:—

'LUBECK, ROSTOCK, COLOGNE, ESSEN and TOKYO are the first real doses of the pretty potent medicine we have long been brewing for Hitler, Hirohito and other members of the gang. Your Air Corps will soon be

with ours, bombing GERMANY in a big way, and the blows we shall strike together will get harder.

'GERMANY'S aircraft industry is incapable of further great expansion—ENGLAND has achieved at least parity in planes with GERMANY. The U. S. is producing in a month something like the total number of aircraft JAPAN can turn out in a year. The enemy's strength is at its peak: ours grows every day'.

On the same day, (June 8), the R.A.F. issued the following warning to the French in French:—

"In view of the steady intensification of R.A.F. raids and Commando actions, it has been decided to issue in our broadcasts in French a further warning to our friends and allies living in the coastal districts of occupied FRANCE.

"These people are living in one of the danger areas and many lives, as we know, have already been lost. We realise that it must be a big wrench for homes to be broken up and for families to be transferred to safe areas.

"But we are making this formal annoucement from LONDON so that whenever possible French civilians may move away from the battle zone."

"The coastal regions of Occupied FRANCE from the Belgian frontier to the Pyrenees are in danger of becoming more and more a theatre of war operations.

"For obvious reasons it is not possible to state in advance either the time or place of such operations. They will be carried out at the right moment and wherever they are judged useful.

"They will inevitably entail the greatest danger for the civilian population. Therefore, we warn all French people in the forbidden coastal zone to take their precautions now. The only effective precaution is to evacuate without delay all those areas which have been black-listed by the Germans.

"We ask you to evacuate them because it is necessary for the success of operations of capital importance in the struggle for the liberation of FRANCE.

"Do not wait until the last minute. It will be too late. Get away as soon as possible."

A combined Anglo-U. S. Production Committee has been set up to integrate production programmes. A Combined Production Resources Board and a Combined Food Board have also been formed.

The Italian Anniversary.—June 10 is the second anniversary of Mussolini's declaration of war—a fitting occasion for a review of ITALY's present 'helpless and hopeless situation.' Here is a fitting description of it extracted from the *Daily Telegraph* :

"He went to war to obtain loot without cost or military effort, but so far nothing has been obtained from FRANCE or BRITAIN.

In YUGOSLAVIA, there is supposed to be a puppet State-of CROATIA–but the Italian puppet has not yet been able to reign there. GREECE has become a classic example of the only Roman precept which Mussolini has been able to follow.

The whole "Empire" in East AFRICA has been lost, and the only German help was temporarily to prevent the loss of LIBYA. German officials supervise her administration and German troops are quartered on her soil.

The frugal Italian people are hungry all the year round, and cold in the winter.

In the first year of the war, 37,000 of her sons were killed, wounded or captured. In the second year, tens of thousands more have been lost, and the German leech is sucking the Italian blood on the new Front in RUSSIA.

The only difference between ITALY and other occupied countries is that Italians have to die for GERMANY, as well as work and starve for GERMANY. No ruler has ever done more harm to his country in so short a time than Mussolini to ITALY.

All save a few know that their only chance lies in a German defeat and none save a few can do anything to help to ensure it. Millions of Italians, who are now citizens of the UNITED STATES, are fighting against tyranny in the true spirit of Garibaldi. But Italians in ITALY would be compelled to fight a Garibaldi if he landed on their shores."

Britain.—A powerful force of U. S. A. warships, destroyers and other ships has joined the British Fleet. It recently had the honour of a three-day visit by His Majesty.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

1—6—42 (Monday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY :—

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
4 offensive sweeps over occupied Northern FRANCE and BELGIUM. **The docks** at BRUGES.	1 pilot safe.	9 planes.	2 planes.

NIGHT :—

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
Military and Industrial objectives in the RUHR. **ESSEN** (by 1,036 R. A. F. planes). **Enemy aerodromes** in GERMANY, occupied FRANCE and the LOW COUNTRIES.		35 planes.	2 planes.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Lorries, ammunition wagons, armoured cars and tanks in the battle area.

The landing ground at DERNA.

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft along the entire battle area.

FAR EAST—TIMOR (Dutch). (By American and British planes).

Barracks and trnsports at ATAM BOEA.

NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British palnes).

The aerodrome at RABAUL.

SOLOMON Islands. (By American and British planes).

Enemy installations at TULAGI.

2—6—42 (Tuesday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY :—

Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL, Northern FRANCE and GRAVELINES area.

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
Railway targets in Northern FRANCE. **PAS DE CALAIS** area. **The docks** at DIEPPE. **Two minesweepers** off USHANT.	1 pilot safe.	9 planes.	3 planes.

NIGHT :—

Military and Industrial objectives in the RUHR including ESSEN.

The docks at DIEPPE.

Laying mines in enemy waters.

Airfields, Railways and industrial targets in occupied territory.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Enemy mechanised units north of BIR HAKHEIM.

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas of CYRENAICA.

SARDINIA. (By British planes).

Objectives at PANTELLARIA and CAGLIARI.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the ground along the entire front.

FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).

Oyster Island off AKYAB.

NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).

Reconnaissance over LAE.

3—6—42 (Wednesday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY :—

The railway at LE TREPORT.

The docks at CHERBOURG and LE HAVRE.
Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.

NIGHT:—
Industrial targets at BREMEN.
The docks at DIEPPE.
Laying mines in enemy waters.
Aerodromes in FRANCE and the LOW COUNTRIES. } 10 planes.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Support to the British land forces.
Offensive sweeps behind the enemy's lines.
The landing grounds at DERNA and TMIMI.
Mechanised units in the BIR HAKHEIM area.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the ground along the entire front.

FAR EAST—TIMOR. (By American and British planes).

The aerodrome at KOEPANG. — Fires started.

NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes)

A military camp and wharves at RABAUL.

SOLOMON Islands. (By American and British planes).

A flying-boat at TULAGI.

4—6—42 (Thursday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY —
An aerodrome in CHERBOURG area. — Many enemy planes damaged. — 1 plane.
Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.
The docks at BOULOGNE.

NIGHT:—
The docks at DIEPPE.
Airfields in occupied Northern FRANCE and HOLLAND.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Aiding ground troops in CYRENAICA.
Enemy motor vehicles, tanks and ammunition lorries in LIBYA.
The harbour at BENGHAZI.

MEDITERRANEAN. (By British planes).

A large enemy vessel in the central MEDITERRANEAN.

SICILY. (By British planes.)

CATANIA.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire front.

FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).

The harbour and wharves at RABAUL.

NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).

Reconnaissance over enemy occupied LAE and SALAMAUA.

5—6—42 (Friday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY:—
The power stations at OSTEND and LE HAVRE.
Aerodromes in BRITTANY, ABBEVILLE, MORLAI and LANNION.
Offensive sweeps over the CALAIS-DUNKIRK area.

NIGHT:—
Laying mines in enemy waters.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

The landing grounds at DERNA and MARTUBA.
Support to the land operations west of KNIGHTSBRIDGE.

RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft along the entire front.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies	Aircraft losses for Enemies
5—6—42 **(Friday)—cont.**				
	FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
	The aerodrome and the harbour at RABAUL.			
	MIDWAY Islands. (By American and British planes).			
	Japanese fleet attacking MIDWAY ISLANDS.	3 Japanese carriers with planes sunk; 3 battleships, 4 cruisers and 3 transports damaged.		
6—6—42 **(Saturday).**				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
	DAY:—			
	Patrol over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.			
	NIGHT:—			
	The docks and the Naval base at EMDEN. **Enemy airfields** in the LOW COUNTRIES.		9 planes.	
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	The landing grounds and grounded aircraft at DERNA and MARTUBA.			
	Enemy armoured and supply columns operating in the battle area of CYRENAICA.	Numerous vehicles destroyed.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI.			
	ITALY.			
	The harbour and shipping at NAPLES.			
	RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
	Aircraft on the ground and air combats along the whole Front.			
	FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
	Jap troop concentrations in the HOMALIN area east of the Chindwin River.			
7—6—42 **(Sunday).**				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
	NIGHT:—			
	Enemy aerodromes and other targets in HOLLAND and Northern FRANCE.			
	Enemy shipping off the FRISIAN ISLANDS.	1 ship hit.	No loss.	
	LIBYA. (By German planes).			
	Enemy concentrations and supply columns in the battle area.			
	The harbour at BENGHAZI.			
	SARDINIA.			
	The Sea-plane base at CAGLIARI.			
	RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
	Air combats and aircraft on the ground along the entire Front.			
	FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
	The harbour and shipping at AKYAB.	A merchant ship damaged and a Jetty sunk.		

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies	Aircraft losses for Allies
2—6—42 **(Tuesday).**				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
	No information available.			
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.	Many planes damaged.	1 plane.	
	FAR EAST. (By Jap planes).			
	No information available.			

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies	Aircraft losses for Allies.
3—6—42 (Wednesday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
South-east ENGLAND.			1 plane.	
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.				
	FAR EAST—ALASKA. (By Jap planes).			
Dutch harbour in the ALEUTIAN Islands.				
4—6—42 (Thursday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
A place in East ANGLIA.				
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.				
	FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA (By Jap planes).			
Reconnaissance over Port MORESBY.				
5—6—42. (Friday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
No enemy air activity.				
	LIBYA. (By German planes).			
British position in BIR HAKHEIM **area.**				
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.				
	FAR EAST. (By Jap planes).			
No information available.				

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.	Aircraft losses for Allies.
6—6—42 (Saturday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
Scattered points over one area of South-east ENGLAND.		Very slight damage.	3 planes.	
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.			4 planes.	
	FAR EAST. (By Jap planes).			
Reconnaissance over the northern coast of AUSTRALIA.				
7—6—42 (Sunday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
A point in South-west ENGLAND		No damage.		
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.				
	FAR EAST. (By Jap planes).			
No information available.				
8—6—42 (Monday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.				
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.				
	FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes).			
LAE.			2 planes.	
	CHINA. (By Jap planes).			
Chinese towns in CHEKIANG **province.**				

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT. One of the most important activities inaugurated by the National War Front is the drive for food production. 1,300,000 tons of rice which INDIA was annually importing from BURMA, SIAM and INDO-CHINA are now cut off. INDIA has to feed CEYLON in addition, feed her army, and export rice to the MIDDLE and NEAR-EAST, including PERSIA where there is famine. She must also provide against a bad crop and failure of season, face transport difficulties and dislocation which may arise in the event of an enemy attack. The need for propaganda for food production will thus be apparent. The proverbial inertia of the Indian peasant has to be overcome. Areas under cotton and ground-nut which cannot now be exported should be turned over to food production. The drive is intended to bring some 7,000,000 acres more under food crops. Provincial Governments are giving concessions and the latest Press Note of May 25 of the Government of INDIA promises that if for any reason there should be over production of food grains whether in British INDIA or in the Indian States they will themselves buy 'such quantities of food-stuffs in the open market as are calculated to prevent a serious fall in prices."

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THE DEFENCE OF INDIA. One of the largest convoys known recently arrived in INDIA, without the loss of a single ship, man or gun; perhaps it was the largest convoy ever to leave the British shores: as a matter of fact, it proved too large for any single Indian port, so that it had to be taken to different ports to unload. Troops in thousands, from every branch of the British Army, including infantry, artillery, mechanised units and 'shock' troops; air-men, including famous British pilots and crews of American Kittyhawks; aircraft, tanks, anti-tank guns, ack-ack guns, motorised transports and quantities of ammunition were disembarked.

CEYLON is now fully fortified for defence. The air-garrison has been strengthened in both machine and technical equipment. Hurricane fighters and long-range flying-boats are in full evidence. An entire squadron of American-built Catalina flying-boats manned by Canadians is in readiness. CEYLON is thus prepared to shatter any invasion by sea or air.

The American Technical Mission has recommended the establishment of a War Cabinet for INDIA to control production, transportation and communications.

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SITUATION IN CHINA. Present events show that the Japanese are attempting a pincer movement with one arm based on NANCHANG in KIANGSI and the other on CANTON in KWANTUNG.

Axis propaganda has been trying of late to persuade an unbelieving world that the Chinese and the British have quarrelled, and that Chinese resistance is weakening. It is unnecessary to state that both the statements are untrue. On May 29 General Wavell went out of his way to say that one of the most remarkable features of the Burmese campaign was the perfect co-operation between Generals Stilwell and Alexander. Speaking in the House of Commons on June 3 Mr. Edan pointed out how Allied aid to CHINA would continue to be generous and continuous, despite the numerous demands of other war theatres. TOKYO is anxious to prove that CHINA's finances are collapsing. GREAT BRITAIN has recently assisted CHINA with a 50 million sterling loan and a special 5 million sterling allotment to stabilise Chinese currency, and has also covered all military deliveries with a credit of 8 million sterling.

Chinese resistance has not abated. KINHWA fell after resisting for 7 days, after taking a heavy toll of the enemy and only when the enemy used poison gas. The Chinese have held up the enemy in YUNNAN in the TENCHUNG-LUNGLING-PAOSHAN triangle, and have launched full-blooded offensives in central HUPEH and ANHWEI.

As the *London Times*, referring to CHINA's five-year struggle, observed in a leading article on June 6:

'In that long agony her valiant spirit alone remains unbroken, and no matter what else the aggressor may have conquered that, at least, is unconquered and unconquerable.

'CHINA's need of help is, however, pressing. The WASHINGTON agreement is a documentary assurance that that help, which has already been given, will go on and grow.

'If further assurance is needed, it will be found in the large army that is being built up steadily in INDIA, whose purpose will be to reconquer BURMA.'

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PACIFIC EVENTS. The simultaneous Japanese attacks on SYDNEY, DUTCH HARBOUR and the MIDWAY ISLANDS constitute the naval events of the week in the Pacific. They show in outline the Japanese strategy which is to keep striking at different points far separated from one another, without revealing where the main attack will fall hereafter. They also prove how alert the Allies are and prepared to meet an offensive at any and every point. The submarine attacks on SYDNEY harbour were frustrated by Australian 'awareness'. The raid on DUTCH HARBOUR was a slight affair, perhaps intended as a reprisal for the bombing of TOKYO: if so, it was a poor show. The attack on MIDWAY was made in full force; but it was also fully anticipated by the U.S. Fleet. Here the enemy has been forced to withdraw, with severe loss. In the words of Admiral Nimitz 'PEARL HARBOUR has been partially avenged.'

IN THE LIBYAN DESERT. In LIBYA also the element of surprise which the Germans used to advantage hitherto was given no chance. The mass attacks on MALTA in April and May, the arrival, by Junker transport aircraft, of reinforcements to LIBYA from GREECE and CRETE, as well as of two new German Generals, Nehring and Bismarck, were pointers of the impending mischief. So the Allied Desert Command knew when and where the offensive would come, so that just as the Axis tanks rounded the Allies Southern flank they were confronted by Allied tanks, which had been drawn up and were in readiness for the fight.

The Axis, it is true, effected some penetration in the early phases; but in desert warfare which is full of large and rapid movements that does not constitute a success. It is worth not ng that in the five offensives, in the same area in the past, two by the Allies and three by the enemy, an advance was initially made on each occasion by the side which took the initiative.

The Axis headquarters no doubt claim to have frustrated the British counter-attacks and taken 2,000 prisoners, including 'Sir Cohen'. 'Sir Cohen' is non-existent. On the other hand, the German main-objective which was to take TOBRUK has failed. General Ludwing Cruewell, commander of the German Africa Corps has been captured, and German columns are retreating westward, leaving behind 266 tanks, besides large quantities of material. In the two weeks' battle in the KNIGHTSBRIDGE area Rommel was completely out-manoeuvred. The British have captured ROTUNDA SEGNALI.

According to the Military correspondent of the *News Chronicle* 'Physical endurance becomes the governing factor—exhausion is the enemy of sucess. If General Ritchie can lay his hands on armoured reserves, however small, he may well find the means to achieve his immediate end, which is the destruction of German tanks'.

'There is a school of thought, he adds, which believes that summer need not hold up fighting in CYRENAICA. I am inclined to agree with this view, and if the kick has been effectively knocked out of the Nazi armour, and our own possesses—as I think it still should—the vitality needed in the course of a pursuit, I see no reason why BENGHAZI and TRIPOLI should not figure in this month's news as marking the course of our advance'.

Indian troops are gaining fresh laurels in Libya. The Third Indian Motor Brigade bore the full brunt of the initial enemy advance to the east of BIR HAKHEIM.

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JAPAN'S GROWING WEAKNESS. 'Double Japan's Navy and treble the Japanese Air Forces, the result would still be the same—Japan cannot win her war of aggression. It is only a question of time before her victories are turned into defeats.

'Japan's chief difficulty will be to keep her armies supplied with guns and munitions, her air forces with planes, her navy with ships. It is in the field of production that Japan is weak, not only in quantity but also in quality.

'Lacking essential minerals, Japan has had to rely on imports for most of her manufactures. Now she must rely completely on her own volcanic islands and the territory that she has conquered. No great manufacturing centres have been occupied, and those industries that have been lost by the Allies have been "scorched" to an extent that renders them non-productive for many months. Another vital factor that seriously hampers Japan is shipping. Japan has a large merchant fleet, but the number of ships she is able to build to replace losses will be small.

'New ships require steel, guns and munitions require steel, aeroplane motors require steel, naval replenishments require steel—and steel is one of Japan's greatest needs.

Extent of Poverty. 'A comparison of Japan's war output with that of the United Nations indicates the extent of her poverty. The principal Allied contributor of war material in the Pacific zone is the United States. Even the roughest comparison—giving Japan the benefit of the doubt where exact figures are not available—shows that Japan cannot hope to compete on anything like the same scale. Aeroplanes, for instance—Japan produces at the most 450 per month or—allowing for increases—5,750 per year.

'America will produce this year 60,000 planes of which 45,000 will be fighters, bombers and dive bombers.

Tank Production. 'Japan's exact tank production is not known, but a reliable estimate is 750 tanks a year—the U. S. A. will produce this year 45,000 and next year 75,000. In these instances, the Japanese are hopelessly outnumbered in production by America alone. In addition to America, British production, which to-day is considered to be about the same as America's, and Canadian, Australian, Indian and South African production will eventually be levelled against the enemy.'

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IZYUM. The German thrust at IZYUM had been anticipated, even when Timoshenko planned his KHARKOV offensive. Thus, though the initial onset by reason of its intensity drove a fairly deep wedge into Russian positions, the enemy was soon brought to a halt before he could establish a bridgehead over the Donetz river. Thus another *blitz* was smothered before it got into its stride. Another significant factor is that the German attack was not part of a planned general offensive, but a defensive step which the Russians forced on the enemy by their earlier advance on KHARKOV. Thus IZYUM has shown not only that the Soviet retains the initiative but can hold German onslaughts, however powerful.

The growing Russian air-strength has also forced the *Luftwaffe* to change its tactics. Whereas last year German bomber bases were situated 500 miles behind the front line, they are now brought up to the battlefield itself.

Russian strategy is not directed just yet to any general offensive, calculated to liberate the UKRAINE and expel the enemy from the Russian soil. It is now primarily addressed to the initial task of attrition. The strategy consists of a number of thrusts, designed to throw the Germans out of their stride and eat into their reserves. IZYUM has achieved some solid success in this way, and postponed the projected offensive on the CAUCASUS by weeks. Similar attenuating action is proceeding in other spheres—in the SMOLENSK-VYASMA sector, in the centre, and around LENINGRAD.

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RAID ON COLOGNE. It is now known that while 1,000 bombers were actually over COLOGNE, 250 other machines were carrying out diversionary attacks at the same time to draw off the anti-aircraft defences. This means that 150 British squadrons operated simultaneously, involving most careful planning. Generally speaking 200 to 300 planes is the practical maximum limit for a single attack. The stupendous operation carried out over COLOGNE has been compared to traffic in one of LONDON's busiest street junctions. But this is a poor comparison. The organisation required to prevent collision and confusion, when a thousand planes flying at 300 miles an hour operate over a single city, borders on the superhuman, and yet it was successfully carried out over COLOGNE.

The fact that the total weight of bombs dropped amounted to 3,000 tons suggests that the aircraft that were employed must have been the biggest types such as Short Stirlings (bigger even than the Flying Fortresses), Avro-Lancasters and Avro-Manchesters.

Again, in order to stage an attack with a thousand planes, a monthly output of at least 2,000 new planes is necessary and it is satisfactory to note that British factories have achieved this amazing result, in addition to the production of supplies earmarked for priority delivery to RUSSIA, the MIDDLE EAST and INDIA. In other words, the aircraft that visited COLOGNE were only the residue left after meeting these other demands.

Mr. Churchill's recent statement in the House of Commons that the COLOGNE Raid marked a 'new phase in the air war' is also worth noting. He said in effect that the four-figure raid on COLOGNE was not the highest wave of a tide which had already reached its climax, but only the beginning of a tide which will rise yet higher. Sir Archibald Sinclair said the same thing, when he stated that the next climax will be 'more tremendous still.' If so, the tide must overwhelm the enemy when the U. S. bombing forces join.

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HITLER AND LAVAL. The theory is being put forward that, angry with Laval's tame submission to British action

in MADAGASCAR and American action in the MARTINIQUE, Hitler is contemplating Laval's dismissal. The SALZBURG meeting at which Hitler is supposed to have promised CORSICA, SAVOY and TUNISIA, is also argued as the first step in the break. Hitler is too clever to support Mussolini to the extent of humiliating Laval. It is also unlikely that Laval has taken a passive attitude in regard to MADAGASCAR or MARTINIQUE without the connivance of BERLIN. It is rather probable that Laval is preparing the ground. He has not yet had time to put down the 'De Gaullists' and 'Anglo-philes'. The spontaneous rising at St. NAZAIRE during the British raid, the recent student demonstrations in PARIS, and the indiscriminate German shootings of hostages have shown that the spirit of revolt is very much present. Laval has still to appoint his own underlings in North and West AFRICA. It would therefore appear that Laval is in no mood for any dramatic moves at present, and has adopted a policy of 'gradualness', while at the same time trying to ingratiate himself in GERMANY's favour by little acts of treachery and cunning. Rumour associates him with the recent murder of M. Clement, Editor of Doriot's newspaper. It is said that it was staged to convince BERLIN of the unpopularity of Doriot, who, Laval fears, would replace him.

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HEYDRICH. Heydrich, Deputy 'Protector' of BOHEMIA and MORAVIA, Chief of the 'Security Police' and S. S. Group Leader, died on June 3 of wounds he had received more than a week earlier at the hands of an unknown assassin. 220 Czechs, including some 60 women were executed in 'reprisal'. This is a fitting end to a life of violence and dishonour. The career of this bad man was after the Nazi pattern. In the days of the Weimar Republic he held the post of a naval officer, from which he was dismissed for treason. In the early days of his membership of the Nazi Party he was accused of embezzlement and larceny. By blackmail he got himself a job n the Nazi organisation. During the purge on June 30, 1934, he won Hitler's favour by shooting Gregor Strasser, his benefactor. Appointed to POLAND he executed 82,000 men and women in two years. In YUGOSLAVIA over 60,000 executions were carried out under his orders. Appointed to BOHEMIA-MORAVIA in September 1941, he shot 336 Czechs and handed over 1,500 more to the Gestapo within a month. His recent visit to PARIS resulted in shooting 460 Frenchmen.

THE GERMAN SECOND FRONT.
MISUNDERSTOOD PASSAGE IN HITLER'S SPEECH.

by

Douglas Reed.

While the Germans take the offensive in the Crimea, the Russians drive to Kharkov and the decisive struggle of this war thus swells, the call for

a "second front" continues in Britain. The fighting services and people are pressing for it: representatives here of the countries occupied by Germany advocate it: Russia through its journal published in London calls for it weekly: Americans favour it.

The British Government, though its spokesmen give a warning that the time may not be ripe, avowedly welcomes this feeling as proof that the whole nation is united in the desire to attack.

But whether the United Nations strike at Germany soon or not so soon a "second front", has already come into being in Germany.

For the signs are now clear that the underground opposition to Hitler's régime in Germany itself, perceiving that the war cannot be won and fearing the losses and privations which its prolongation must bring, are beginning to coalesce and take shape against him, and to measure themselves in the background for his shoes. **It is 1918 over again: a good deal more German cannon fodder will be used up during the remainder of this year, but behind the German scenes a tactical repudiation of Hitler is already being prepared, and some new Prince Max of Baden is being groomed for office.**

Even during the last winter, the men who aspire to rule Germany after Hitler has gone were pre-concerting his relegation. That was the purpose behind his elevation to supreme command: responsibility for the coming disaster is his alone, so that after his departure the German people and outer world may blandly be told "The guilty man has gone: surely you have nothing against us."

Now, as Hitler strikes in Russia, these men prepare his overthrow. Hitler sees the plan: he begins to fear his isolation and seeks to thwart the plot. The most significant sentence in his last speech (it was universally misunderstood) was that wherein he complained of some unnamed Germans who violated discipline and their duty by "demanding furlough." They couldn't have it, he said; he himself hadn't had three days furlough in nine years. The world wrongly thought he meant tired soldiers who clamoured for leave. **He had in mind certain eminent leaders who now seek, under pretence of illness or exhaustion, to withdraw from the circle around the man they know to be doomed, to divest themselves of responsibility. That is the "Second front."**

JAPAN AND THE BATTLE OF SUPPLIES.

by

John MacDonald.

Japan prepared for a long time for the day when she would gamble all in one big effort to couquer Asia. For years she hoarded reserves of materials —guns, shells, armour plate, powder and oil—against the day when her aggression would begin.

So far Japan's navy has been the dominant factor in her war effort. But how is she likely to fare hereafter when her supply of materials runs low and needs to be replaced ?

The scale of Japanese production is best illustrated by comparing her 7,000,000 tons of steel a year, with the United States' 88,000,000 tons; her 24,000 tons of aluminium with the United States' 400,000 tons. Japan produces only 7,000,000 barrels of oil a year and needs between five and six times this amount.

For the period of the war Japan will not be able to get plentiful supplies of scrap iron, oil, copper, ferro-alloys, metal-working machinery, tin, aluminium, lead, mercury, manganese, phosphorus, chrome and nickel. Even should Japan be able to obtain chrome and iron ore from the Philippines, oil and bauxite from the East Indies, rubber and tin from Malaya, she has not the factories nor the technicians to handle them on a big scale.

Japan's aeroplane output is about 400 per month. Before the war, she could, to some extent, buy planes from Germany and Italy. The United States' monthly production of 'planes of all types is now over 3,500; while the total output of the United Nations at present is at the rate of about 135,000 per year.

In man-power Japan is also greatly limited. Japan's army is about 5,000,000 strong; reserves are about 3,000,000. Allied reserves are virtually unlimited. At present the armies of the axis have 14,500,000 men; those of the United Nations 15,000,000. In addition, the quality of the fighting men and their equipment, disposition, proximity to supplies, command of shipping and length of front to be defended—these and other matters have to be taken into account before any real estimate of relative strengths can be made If Japan is not allowed to join hands with her Axis partners she must rely entirely on her own man-power and production. The United Nations, on the other hand, will soon be able to put armies more than twice as big as Japan's into the Pacific war zone.

DOOLITTLE'S RAID AND JAPAN'S AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY
CENTRAL ASSEMBLY PLANT HIT?

The story told by Brigadier Doolittle of the bombing of Japanese cities by American planes throws a little more light on a very interesting subject. He states that "the raid was carried out at midday at very low altitude and in clear weather." Apparently the attackers made use of the surprise element—hitherto a Jap monopoly. Interesting too is the story of a direct hit on a new battleship in a south Tokyo Navy Yard.

But the most valuable information General Doolittle divulged is probably the fact that "incendiary bombs were dropped along a quarter-mile of an aircraft factory near Nagoya." This would undoubtedly be the giant Mitsubishi plant, where fighters and bombers are assembled.

The system of aircraft manufacture in Japan is one of decentralization—to such an extent that efficiency must suffer considerably. There are 21 factories under Government supervision at various points of the main island of Japan. They each send their finished products—fuselage, motors, wings, landing gear, etc.—to the Mitsubishi plant on the outskirts of Nagoya.

The importance of material damage to this plant can therefore be readily seen. Any destruction of the assembly lines or stored finished materials, seriously hampers the daily output. **Japan produces planes slower than any other power engaged in the war. One plane every hour and a half, is a fairly accurate estimate—in comparison with the United States' one plane every eight and a half minutes.**

This slow speed of manufacture may have been slowed down still further as a result of the American raid.

JAPAN'S "NEW ORDER" IN KOREA.

(*From Washington by Special Cable*).

At this time when the Japanese radio is blaring incessently about Japan as a "liberator", and the glories and wonders of Japan's "New Order", attention is being focussed in Washington on the record of Japan as a "liberator" and the creator of a "New Order" in the past. It was observed that Japan's long history of oppression, torture and enslavement of conquered peoples made the transparent lies of the Tokyo radio doubly ridiculous.

One of America's most scholarly and influential magazines, *Asia* prints in the current issue an analysis of what has happened to Korea under a Japanese-created "New Order". The article is entitled "Korea Exhibits in Japan's 'New Order'". The slow and carefully planned sack of Korea shows what conquered populations may expect from Japanese victories, states the article. After 32 years of Japanese rule Korea has become a sullen and embittered country.

POOR AND HUNGRY.

Korea is poorer aud hungrier than at any time in its history. The peninsula's wealth is pumped across to Nippon with icy disregard for the welfare of the people. The Japanese conquest consisted of a systematic house-to-house looting. Now the tenant and squatter classess are eating halved rations—two handfuls of rice weekly per person. This is not enough to prevent slow starvation.

The Koreans are deprived of the most elementary human rights. They are forbidden to speak Korean even in their own homes. Korea is the military Governor-General's world. He carries absolute power of life and death over every soul. Over 400,000 Japanese soldiers and police are stationed on the peninsula. The Japs have recruited from the dregs of the population 200,000 Koreans whose duty it is to spy on their own people. The Japs slap and kick the Koreans with no fear of punishment.

KOREANS UNBROKEN.

The Japanese and Koreans have separate schools, and, although the local population is 50 times that of their Japanese masters, the appropriation for Japanese schools is almost as great as that granted to the Koreans. **The Koreans remain unbroken and unassimilated.** So hostile are the Koreans that the Japs have not dared to conscript them for service in the Japanese Army. The Japs continue to slaughter peaceful citizens as well as patriots. There are many instances of Korean patriots attacking important Japanese officials. Over 100,000 Koreans are now organized. They operate secret societies. The Korean patriot leader, Kim San, declares that Korea will flare up the moment the war in the Pacific sweeps clean the Japanese Sea, and thereby gives the Koreans an opportunity to strike effectively.

A BALANCE SHEET.

by

Museyin Cahid Yalcin.

(*From the "Yeni Sadah" Istanbul of 21—4—42*).

In a signed letter I have received from one of my readers who has not concealed his identity I am asked; "Do you still believe in the final victory of Britain? Or do you pretend you still believe in it because you wish to persist to the end in a conviction which somehow or other you once began to defend?"

I confess that I was greatly astonished by that question. I, who am every day more convinced that facts are substantiating and confirming the point of view which I defended at the very beginning of the present crisis, when it was yet unknown what line of development events would take, find it inconceivable that there should be certain people swayed by an opinion contrary to mine. It is evident that there is need for further thought and reasoning.

Two years and a half have passed since the war broke out. Has the strength of Britain increased or decreased during that period? Has the position of Britain taken a turn for the worse? To doubt of the final victory of the Democratic Powers it is necessary to answer these questions.

To begin with, does not the fact that the war has lasted two years and a half, and that no one dares to conjecture when it will end, constitute an important result to be recorded in favour of Britain and her Allies? Have not the Axis sources which spoke of lightning victories finally been forced to declare that they had never used the term "lightning victory"? Was not a speedy victory promised to the German people? Was not reference made eight or ten months ago to the imminent annihilation of Russia? Had not a date been fixed for the entry of enemy troops into London?

To-day, no Axis source resorts to such propaganda any longer. The preparations which the Axis had made for years failed to achieve a decisive result, although the Democratic Powers had been guilty of neglect and had slept for years. No one could have supposed that the Democratic Powers were truly so unprepared. Since the Axis has failed, when it was at its strongest, to overthrow its enemies when they were at their weakest, it can win the final victory only through a miracle.

Nor should it be overlooked, that in the summer of 1940 the German Army had succeeded in dismembering the Democratic forces, and in eliminating France from the field of battle. After the Great War, France was reputed to be the greatest military Power in the world. An impregnable Maginot line constituted an insuperable obstacle to the Germans. The French Army was the backbone of the Democratic strength on land. It was to the French sword that the duty of defending the Democracies in the West and in the Near and Far East was entrusted. Was it not under consideration at the beginning of the war that an army under the command of General Weygand should threaten Germany by setting out from Syria and by marching through the Balkans? Was it not suggested that Russia, the then ally of Germany, should be crushed in the Caucasus? When Britain declared war against the Axis she naturally laid great hopes on the French Army. But in June 1940 Britain saw that her hopes were in vain. She was forced to retreat at Dunkirk, leaving no fewer than a thousand guns to the enemy. As a result of this reverse suffered in the first phase of the war, Britain, which had no land army, found herself in a position weaker than before the war.

But was she defeated? Did the Germans succeed in landing in Britain and in forcing the British people to their knees? Did they succeed in sinking the British ships and in weakening the British people through hunger?

No. Like a wave which has thrown itself on an immense rock the Axis forces of invasion receded from the British coasts, and began attacking countries which had nothing to do with the war. While to all appearances the Axis Powers won victory after victory in those countries, Britain found the time to form and train her armies, to launch new ships, to produce new tanks and guns. But that did not stop her from dealing a killing blow to Italy

in Africa. She liberated Abyssinia, "cleaned" Eritrea of the enemy. The allied Italian and German forces failed to dislodge Britain from Egypt or from Malta. On the contrary, Britain firmly established herself in the Middle East right up to the Caucasus. While Germany lost her most valuable forces in Russia and weakened, Britain amassed new forces and secured the unlimited assistance of the United States.

Such is the position to-day. The Axis is no longer what it was at the beginning of the war. The Axis armies have been weakened, and they are about to enter a new phase in which they will be bitterly tested. As to the British, they have almost completed their preparations, and the bombs they drop on German cities in broad daylight prove their superiority in the air.

AN AMERICAN LETTER.
NEW CONCEPTION OF ALLIED STRATEGY.
FINISH GERMANY OFF IN 1942?

by

Edward Montgomery (*By Cable from London*).

The important decision taken by Mr. Donald M. Nelson, U. S. war production chief, to divert stocks of steel and other raw materials earmarked for future war factory construction, into a stream of raw materials for immediate war production, may have a much deeper implication than would appear on the surface. A number of American commentators are interpreting this decision as the first evidence of the profound change in the administration's conception of the world-wide strategy of the United Nations.

Up to a few weeks ago strategic thinking, both in Washington and in London, had been dominated by the idea of a long-term policy involving the accumulation by the United Nations of vast quantities of war material, and the training of vast numbers of men to use those materials, with the object of launching a combined offensive on a most massive scale beginning **in the summer of 1943.**

In more than one speech by Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt and the other leaders and statesmen of the United Nations, the strategic principle of holding on until a crushing superiority has been prepared was enunciated. June 1943 was always estimated as the date on which the crushing superiority would have been attained.

But both in Britain and in America the developments of the last few weeks have brought the conviction that the main enemy, Germany, can be defeated in 1942, if the weight of men and materials now available to the United Nations are thrown into the balance against her. This conviction necessarily involves radical changes in policy.

On the strategic plane, it means that all possibilities for offensive action against the Axis in Europe must be fully explored, and plans prepared to take the utmost advantage of those possibilities. **On the production plane, it means that the most intensive efforts must be made, both in Britain and in America, to speed up the production of munitions and war materials for immediate use, relegating to secondary priority longer-term projects.**

FORGES AHEAD.

The latest news confirms earlier reports that American war production was already exceeding the most optimistic estimates of a few months ago. **One result of the tremendous speed up in production is that production has forged ahead of supply, and the main difficulty now is to find enough food for the hungry mouths of industry.** This again is another reason why future plant expansion should be curtailed in favour of present manufacture.

The ship-building situation, which some weeks ago was giving cause for concern, has recently shown signs of considerable improvement. Construction is gaining momentum, **and the overall time taken to complete ships is being steadily cut down**.

Another pointer to the fundamental change in the United Nations' policy is given by the President's decision, announced last Friday, to give the U. S. Army complete control over all passenger air-lines of the United States. This probably presages the cutting down of facilities for civilian air-traffic, to provide the army with the transport planes it will need to speed up its preparations for offensive actions in the near future.

MOSLEMS IN THE SOVIET UNION.
THEY HAVE "SOMETHING TO DEFEND FROM HITLER".

(*From London by **Special Cable***).

Moslem peoples are playing a considerable part in the defence of the Soviet Union. Men from Azerbaidjan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Tataria, Bashkiria, Daghestan and other Soviet republics in the East are to be found on all sectors of the front. Not a few of them have been awarded the highest military distinctions in the Soviet Union.

Under Article 123 of the Constitution of the U. S. S. R., all national inequality and disabilities have been abolished by law. All the languages of the peoples of the Union enjoy equal status. In the national republics, the official languages are Russian and the language of the people who form the bulk of the inhabitants. On January 1, 1941, the number of pupils in schools where instruction was given in Azerbaidjanian, Tartar, Uzbek, Turkmenian and

other Moslem languages totalled 16,921,900. This figure does not include Moslems attending schools where instruction is given in the languages of other peoples of the U. S. S. R. Nor does it include Russians and other nationals attending schools where instruction is given in Kirghiz, Tartar and similar languages.

FREEDOM OF WORSHIP.

Article 124 of the Soviet Constitution guarantees freedom of religious worship to all citizens. This permits religious teaching at home and also the functioning of Moslem mosques, both Shiite and Sunnite. The Moslem centre in the Soviet Union is the city of Usa, in Bashkiria, where its ecclesiastical leader—at present Mullah Abdul Rahman Rassulayev—has his permanent residence.

In the Soviet Union there are 1,312 mosques, served by 8,052 mullahs, 282 sheiks, 528 ishans and other religious men. These figures include all Moslem sects: Sunnite, Shiite and Ismailite.

The cultural life of the Moslem peoples of the U. S. S. R. has developed at an unprecedented pace. In the Central Asiatic republics—Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tadjikstan, Kirghizia and Kazakhstan—on January 1, 1941, there were 140 theatres, of which 103 were performing in the languages of the local populations. In these republics there were 7,407 libraries, 8,442 clubs and people's houses and 53 museums.

The languages of the Moslem peoples and their old literature are being revived. The classical works of Russian, Ukrainian and foreign literature are being translated into the languages of the Turko-Tartar peoples. The number of illiterate people in the Moslem republics is continually decreasing. In 1926, the percentage of literates in the Turkmen Republic was 16·5 among men and 7·7 among women. In 1936, the figures were 73·3 for men and 60·6 for women.

HIGHER EDUCATION.

The position is similar in the other republics. According to the 1939 census, in the Azerbaidjan Republic there were 2,500 persons with higher education out of a total population of 3,200,000; in the Turkmen Republic, 4,000 persons out of a total of 1,254,000; in the Kazakh Republic, about 28,000 out of a total of 6,100,000.

Many new higher educational establishments have been opened in the Moslem regions. In Almaata, capital of Kazakhstan, there are seven; in Baku, capital of Azerbaidjan, there are eight in addition to the State Musical Academy; in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, there are 14 including the Central Asiatic University. The Soviet Academy of Sciences has a wide network of branches in the national republics, where Muslim scientists are employed.

The Soviet Moslems of Central Asia, Caucasia and the Volga Basin have something to defend from Hitler.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State National War Front Bureau.

1942—

LECTURE XCIX—(*Batch 1*).

June	...14, Sunday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
		Puvarasakudi	...	6.00 p. m.
		Venkatakulam	...	6.30 p. m.
	15, Monday ...	Tirumayyam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Melur	...	6.30 p. m.
	16, Tuesday ...	Perungalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Adanakkottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	17, Wednesday.	Arimalam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilanilaikkottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	18, Thursday ...	Udayalippatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Killukottai	...	6.30 p. m.
	19, Friday ...	Ambukkovil	...	6.00 p. m.
		Raghunathapuram	...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE C—(*Batch 2*).

	20, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	21, Sunday ...	Vayalogam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kudumiyamalai	...	6.30 p. m.
	22, Monday ...	Nallur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Mandaiyur	...	6.30 p. m.
	23, Tuesday ...	Nachandupatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Virachchilai	...	6.30 p. m.
	24, Wednesday.	Vengalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Konapattu	...	6.30 p. m.
	25, Thursday ...	Panayappatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Rangiyam	...	6.30 p. m.
	26, Friday ...	Kodumbalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Viralimalai	...	6.30 p. m.

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